

109TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2286

To amend part A of title IV of the Social Security Act to eliminate the separate work participation rate for 2-parent families under the temporary assistance for needy families program.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 14, 2006

Mr. OBAMA (for himself and Mr. BAYH) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend part A of title IV of the Social Security Act to eliminate the separate work participation rate for 2-parent families under the temporary assistance for needy families program.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Equality for Two-Par-
5 ent Families Act of 2006”.

1 **SEC. 2. ELIMINATION OF SEPARATE WORK PARTICIPATION**
 2 **RATE FOR 2-PARENT FAMILIES.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 407 of the Social Security
 4 Act (42 U.S.C. 607) is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (a)—

6 (A) beginning in the heading, by striking
 7 “PARTICIPATION RATE REQUIREMENTS” and
 8 all that follows through “A State” in paragraph
 9 (1) and inserting “PARTICIPATION RATE RE-
 10 QUIREMENTS.—A State”; and

11 (B) by striking paragraph (2);

12 (2) in subsection (b)—

13 (A) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking “sub-
 14 section (a)(1)” and inserting “subsection (a)”;

15 (B) by striking paragraph (2) and insert-
 16 ing the following:

17 “(2) FAMILY WITH A DISABLED PARENT NOT
 18 TREATED AS A 2-PARENT FAMILY.—A family that in-
 19 cludes a disabled parent shall not be considered a 2-
 20 parent family for purposes of this section.”;

21 (C) in paragraph (4), by striking “para-
 22 graphs (1)(B) and (2)(B)” and inserting “de-
 23 termining monthly participation rates under
 24 paragraph (1)(B)”;

25 (D) in paragraph (5), by striking “rates”
 26 and inserting “rate”; and

1 (3) in subsection (c)—

2 (A) in paragraph (1)(B), in the matter
3 preceding clause (i), by striking “subsection
4 (b)(2)(B)” and inserting “subsection
5 (b)(1)(B)(i)”; and

6 (B) in paragraph (2)(D)—

7 (i) by striking “paragraphs (1)(B)(i)
8 and (2)(B) of subsection (b)” and insert-
9 ing “subsection (b)(1)(B)(i)”; and

10 (ii) by striking “and in 2-parent fami-
11 lies, respectively,”.

12 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by
14 subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of enact-
15 ment of this Act and shall apply to the determina-
16 tion of minimum participation rates for months be-
17 ginning on or after that date.

18 (2) LIMITATION ON PENALTY IMPOSITION.—

19 Notwithstanding section 409(a)(3) of the Social Se-
20 curity Act, the Secretary of Health and Human
21 Services shall not impose a penalty against a State
22 under that section on the basis of the State’s failure
23 to satisfy the participation rate required for fiscal
24 year 2006 if the State demonstrates that the State
25 would have met such requirement if, with respect to

1 those months of fiscal year 2006 that began prior to
2 or on the date of enactment of this Act, the State
3 were permitted to count 2-parent families that met
4 the requirements of section 407(c)(1)(A) of the So-
5 cial Security Act (42 U.S.C. 607(c)(1)(A)) in the de-
6 termination of monthly participation rates under
7 section 407(b)(1)(B)(i) of such Act (42 U.S.C.
8 607(b)(1)(B)(i)).

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